

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please amend the specification as follows:

Amend paragraph 0025, on page 5 as follows:

In this embodiment, however, a core 83 is located between the base plate 71' and the top plate 72. The core 83 has a central part 9, arranged symmetrical to the symmetrical axis 8, and generally having the shape of a biconvex lens. The outer convex faces of the central part 9 preferably have the same dimensions as the curves of faces 81 74 and 77 to allow the faces to cooperate therewith. The outer convex face facing the top plate defines a top convex face and the outer convex face facing the base plate defines a base convex face.

Amend paragraph 0028, on page 6 as follows:

In the above-described embodiments the base plate and the top plate are preferably made of a biocompatible material, in particular steel or titanium, for example, stainless steel 316L or a cobalt chrome alloy or titanium implant grade. The core in the embodiment shown in FIG. 4 is preferably formed from a body-compatible high-molecular polyethylene synthetic material or any other suitable biocompatible polymer or other biocompatible material. Preferably, the core is made of a high molecular weight polyethylene of the UHM WPE type with a molecular weight preferably between  $2 \times 10^6$  to  $10 \times 10^6$ . The two rings 80, 80' are preferably formed from a body-compatible elastic synthetic material, for example medical grade silicone ~~silicon~~.

**Appln No. 10/660,453**  
**Amdt date August 13, 2007**  
**Reply to Office action of February 12, 2007**

Amend paragraph 0039, on page 9 as follows:

In the embodiments shown in FIGS. 5 and 6, the connecting sleeve 33 is preferably made of a body-compatible synthetic material or of metal, for example, stainless steel 316L or titanium implant grade. The plan-parallel plate 29 and ring 49 are preferably made of a body-compatible elastic synthetic material, for example medical grade silicone ~~silicon~~ or medical grade silicone ~~silicon~~ rubber. The tubular section 100 is preferably formed from titanium or some other body-compatible material.

Amend paragraph 0043, on page 10 as follows:

The materials of the base plate and the top plate and the lenticular body of the core are preferably the same as the materials ~~coincide with these~~ for the previously described embodiment. The material of the ring 49 is preferably the same as that of the plan-parallel plate 29 of the previously described embodiment.